

**ZINZIBER SP.** (Zinziberaceae.) 29355. Roots of ginger from Tsinanfu, Shantung, China. Presented by Mr. J. S. Whitewright, Tsinanfu Institute. Imported for investigations of the hardy forms of ginger in the hope of introducing the culture in the United States considerably farther north than has heretofore been thought possible. For distribution later.

**ZIZANIA LATIFOLIA.** (Poaceae.) 29173. Roots of wild-rice from Canton, China. Presented by Mr. G. Weidman Groff, Canton Christian College. "Woo kau or kau sun." (See Bulletin No. 30, this series, for description.) Introduced for trial of the succulent vegetable shoots produced from the perennial rootstocks. The grain may also be of some food value. For distribution later.

#### NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

**ALGERIA, Algiers.** Dr. L. Trabut writes December 26, 1910 that he will send us scions of pears from the Aures Mountains, and also of his new *Pyrus gharbensis*, which grows on tufas in northern Algeria. He will also include scions of a new pear which comes from an alkaline district near the Great Chott. He puts his large collection of wild forms of Asiatic *Pyrus* at our disposal. Of carobs he writes, "as for the perfect carob, it is a variety which the Spaniards consider as male, and use it as such. In reality the flowers are complete and the ovaries sometimes become very good carobs."

**CUBA, Isles of Pines.** Mr. F. R. Ramsdell writes January 1 that he is using bamboo plantings along his east boundary to modify the ever-blowing northeast wind. "A hedge fence of carissa I find a very efficient low windbreak and also gives a good lot of fruit. I reproduced from one carissa by layering, 240 well-rooted plants which extended our fence quite a little. I hope in time to enclose 100 acres in this hedge. It can be made so tight that chickens cannot get through and is so high and strong that nothing can pass. It is a beautiful fence."

**DOMINICA, Comendador.** Mr. M. E. Beall, Inspector of Customs writes December 18, 1910 of an interesting Dominican plant, the "auyama". "It is a pumpkin, rather oval in form, mottled green skin, from twelve to fourteen inches long by nine inches in diameter, yellow flesh, and very delicious when roasted. The peculiar feature of the plant is that here it will run for, I dare say, a hundred feet. My plants were not prolific bearers." He will send us seed if we wish, as well as of the native muskmelon, which on trial did not prove to be savory. He writes further, "I am in a gardener's paradise here. Today for dinner I had green corn, tomatoes, radishes and watermelon."